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OCT 08 2004

COCHRAN FREUND & YOUNG LLC  
3555 STANFORD ROAD  
SUITE 230  
FORT COLLINS CO 80525

In re Application :  
Mark L. Iske, et al :  
Serial No.: 10/646,968 : DECISION ON PETITION  
Filed: August 22, 2003 :  
For: Spring-actuated, retractable-bladed :  
Surgical scalpel :  
:

This is in response to applicants' petition filed May 12, 2004, to make the above-identified application special under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.102(c), based on the age of the applicant.

Applicant has satisfied the provisions set forth in M.P.E.P. 708.02, IV. Therefore the petition is **GRANTED**.

**The application will be forwarded to the examiner for action on the merits commensurate with this decision.**

Should there be any questions with regard to this letter please contact John Kittle by letter addressed to the Director, Technology Center 3700/2900, P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, or by telephone at (703) 308-0873 or by facsimile transmission at (703) 308-3139.

John E. Kittle  
Director  
Technology Center 3700/2900